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Anthro 1218  
April 29, 2016

### Reflections on Research

Beginning research on something you do not even know the name of, specifically this ship model, is quite daunting. However, I did learn a few things during this process in ways I had not previously considered. For example, analysis by comparison to another vessel or time period. Moreover, figuring out what something is by researching what it is *not*. This is definitely a running theme throughout maritime archaeology. Piecing together the past is one of the most challenging things to do. There is no right way to go about it. One takes information from an incredible variety of sources, whether oral accounts, records of trade or transport, local towns, stories or legends, etc. and analyze it through a multitude of analytical and hypothetical lenses. I gained new perspectives by finding new methods of research. Having personally a neuroscience background, research on a ship model without a specific name was one of the most challenging things I have done. However, with any challenge comes academic gain, and using entirely new perspectives and research methods very much broadened my knowledge of fields not just in maritime archaeology but in history, economics and culture as well. It provided me with a more unified view to countless global connections.